

2018 Current Fiscal Year Report: Advisory Committee on Prosthetics and Special-Disabilities Programs

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1. Department or Agency

Department of Veterans Affairs

2. Fiscal Year

2018

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Advisory Committee on Prosthetics and Special-Disabilities Programs

3b. GSA Committee No.

33

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

05/24/2018

6. Expected Renewal Date

05/24/2020

7. Expected Term Date

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

No

8b. Specific Termination Authority

8c. Actual Term Date

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

No

10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority

38 U.S.C. 543

13. Effective Date

10/09/1992

14. Committee Type

Continuing

14c. Presidential?

No

15. Description of Committee Non Scientific Program Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports

1

16b. Report Date

10/04/2017

Report Title

Advisory Committee on Prosthetics and Special-Disabilities Programs Report

Number of Committee Reports Listed: 1

17a. Open 2 17b. Closed 0 17c. Partially Closed 0 Other Activities 0 17d. Total 2

Meetings and Dates

Purpose	Start	End
The Committee provides advice to the Secretary on prosthetics and special disabilities programs which are defined as any program administered by the Secretary to serve Veterans with spinal cord injury, blindness or visual impairment, loss of or loss of use of extremities, deafness or hearing impairment, or other serious incapacities in terms of daily life functions. The Committee received briefings from key program officials pertaining to issues / recommendations previously addressed in past meetings.	10/04/2017	10/05/2017
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Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 2

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$18,562.04	\$20,000.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$105,017.67	\$106,067.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$18,053.68	\$28,000.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$4,978.00	\$5,000.00
18d. Total	\$146,611.39	\$159,067.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.20	0.20

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The Federal Advisory Committee for Prosthetics and Special Disabilities Programs met objectives for VHA Priorities in FY 2018. The Committee provided advice to the Secretary on prosthetics and special disabilities programs which are defined as any program administered by the Secretary to serve Veterans with spinal cord injury, blindness or visual impairment, loss of or loss of use of extremities, deafness or hearing impairment, or other serious incapacities in terms of daily life functions. The Committee is impressed with the quality of all presentations and the progress VA is making to improve the quantity and quality of services provided to the severely disabled Veteran population while meeting the Secretary's Strategic Goals, to include: Goal 1: Veterans choose VA for easy access, greater choices, and clear information to make informed decisions - Continued support of initiatives that increase Access to rehabilitation and prosthetic services, including telehealth initiatives and Direct Scheduling; Goal 2: Veterans receive timely and integrated care and support that emphasizes their well-being and independence throughout their life journey - Increased access for Blind Rehabilitation Services and consideration of appropriate alternatives to inpatient blind rehabilitation centers, to include community services and expansion to services for Veterans with dual sensory impairments, development and provision of prosthetic limbs and items that meet the needs of Veterans of both genders and collaborative efforts in rehabilitation research outside of traditional rehabilitation, specifically with regard to mental health given the direct psychological impact of disability and increase in Veterans' awareness and access to Recreation Therapy and Veterans Adaptive Sports Programs and Special Events programs and services to Veterans; Goal 3: Veterans trust VA to be consistently accountable and transparent - Continued support for promotion of the Veteran appointment request apps and tracking apps for follow-up and progress and collaborative

efforts in rehabilitation research outside of traditional rehabilitation, specifically with regard to mental health given the direct psychological impact of disability; Goal 4: VA will modernize systems and focus resources more efficiently to be competitive and to provide World Class capabilities to Veterans and its employees - Development and implementation of Certificate Programs and Continuing Education Programs for VA employees volunteering to support events; and making staffing of critical positions a priority.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The Committee is comprised of not more than 12 members made up of experts from the rehabilitation, research, management administration and audiological fields including Veteran consumers. The majority of the Committee's diverse membership will be designated as Special Government Employees with a variety of backgrounds and knowledge sufficient to provide adequate advice and guidance to the Secretary. VA will strive to develop a Committee membership that represents members with diverse professional and personal qualifications: experience in military service, military deployments, working with Veterans, subject matter expertise, and working in large and complex organizations. The Committee shall represent, to the extent possible, Veterans or diverse eras and branches of service, as well as diversity in race/ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, and geographical background.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

The Committee meets twice a year. Title 38 U.S.C. Section 543 requires the Secretary to regularly consult with and seek the advice of the Committee. The Committee receives update briefings from key program officials on issues and recommendations addressed in past meetings. However, the Committee met only once this fiscal year due to membership rotations and appointments.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

The Committee conducts a comprehensive review of prosthetics and special disabilities programs administered by the Department. All Committee recommendations and responses support the Department's strategic goals. The Committee's work is appreciated and provides great value to the Department. Its work is vital to improving the quality of care for Veterans with spinal cord injuries, blindness or visual impairment, loss of or loss of use of extremities, deafness or hearing impairment or other serious incapacities.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

All meetings are open to the public.

21. Remarks

No comments.

Designated Federal Officer

Judy Schafer Designated Federal Officer

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Avina, Alberto	03/30/2013	09/30/2019	Executive Director, Blinded Veterans of America	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Boggs, Joseph	03/30/2013	09/30/2019	Director, Research Neurodevice Innovation Medical, LLC, Chapel Hill, NC	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Grill, Warren	03/30/2013	09/30/2019	Professor, Biomedical Engineering, Duke University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Marshall, Lynne	03/30/2013	09/30/2019	Sr. Research Scientist, Naval Submarine Medical Laboratory, Groton, CT	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Niemeier, Janet	10/01/2016	09/30/2019	Professor, Senior Director of Research for Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Quillen, William	10/01/2016	09/30/2019	Director of the School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Sciences	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Sioss, Donald	03/30/2013	09/30/2019	Former National Commander, Disabled American Veterans	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Wiley, LisaMarie	10/01/2016	09/30/2019	Human Intelligence Colltor and Non- Commissioned Officer	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Williams-Gary, Kelli	03/30/2013	09/30/2019	Asst. Prof., Dept. of Occupational Therapy, Virginia Commonwealth University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Yochelson, Michael	07/30/2014	09/30/2019	Vice-President, Medical Affairs and Chief Medical Officer MedStar National Rehab. Network	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 10

Narrative Description

The Committee represents the interests of Veterans with spinal cord injury, blindness or visual impairment, loss of or loss of use of extremities, deafness or hearing impairment, or other serious incapacities in terms of daily life functions.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other

☐

Outcome Comments

NA

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None

☐

Unable to Determine

☒

Under \$100,000

☐

\$100,000 - \$500,000

☐

\$500,001 - \$1,000,000

☐

\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000

☐

\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000

☐

Over \$10,000,000

☐

Cost Savings Other

☐

Cost Savings Comments

Unable to determine cost savings associated with this Committee.

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

178

Number of Recommendations Comments

This is a total of recommendations for FY 2003 through FY 2018.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

80%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

Some recommendations requires long term planning in order to implement. Committee receives updates regarding implementation of each recommendation.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

20%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

Some recommendations requires long term planning in order to implement. Committee receives updates regarding implementation of each recommendation.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

The Department provides a written response to each recommendation.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

NA

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

NA

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

N/A